



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,398	09/29/2003	Hei-Tao Fung	11873-US-PA	2397

31561 7590 10/06/2006

JIANQ CHYUN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE  
7 FLOOR-1, NO. 100  
ROOSEVELT ROAD, SECTION 2  
TAIPEI, 100  
TAIWAN

EXAMINER

HA, LEYNNA A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2135

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,398

Applicant(s)

FUNG, HEI-TAO

Examiner

LEYNNA T. HA

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-10 have been examined and are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Aiken, et al. (US 7,089,335).**

**As per claim :**

Aiken, et al. teaches an authentication mechanism, for a network where a spanning tree protocol is performed comprising a plurality of bridges, a plurality of layers, a plurality of switches, and a plurality of ports, the authentication mechanism comprising: **(col.5, lines 51-52 and col.8, lines 42-45)**

a plurality of bridge protocol data units; (**col.21, lines 25-31 and col.25, lines 1-9**)

a permit list; and (**col.13, lines 48-65 and col.14, lines 63-67**)

a plurality of authentication rules. (**col.31, lines 24-45 and 51-65 and col.36, lines 49-53 and col.37, lines 2-16**)

**As per claim 2:** See **col.3, lines 40-42**; discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein the bridge protocol data unit comprises: a root identifier field; and a bridge identifier field.

**As per claim 3:** See **col.13, lines 48-65 and col.14, lines 63-67**; discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein the permit list comprises a plurality of bridge addresses allowed in the bridge protocol data units that are received.

**As per claim 4:** Aiken discloses the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein the authentication rules comprise:

if the bridge protocol data unit that is received uses the bridge address of the switch, the bridge protocol data unit is permitted; (**col.20, lines 24-37 and col.26, lines 10-22**)

if the bridge address of the bridge identifier does not match the bridge addresses in the permit list, the bridge protocol data unit that is received is ignored; and (**col.21, lines 30-33**)

if the bridge address of the root identifier does not match the bridge addresses in the permit list, the bridge protocol data unit that is received is

ignored. **(col. 12, lines 5-15 and col.14, lines 47-49)**

**As per claim 5:** See col.5, lines 64-67; discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein the port further comprises a state machine.

**As per claim 6:** Aiken discloses the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 4, wherein when the port receiving the bridge protocol data unit that fails the bridge address permit list, the authentication rules further comprises:

the state machine of the spanning tree protocol port being reset; **(col.16, line 66 and col.17, lines 61-62)**

the bridge protocol data units that pass the permit list being processed;  
**(col.20, lines 24-37 and col.26, lines 10-22)**

an operEdge variable being set to false if the port is an edge port; and  
**(col.31, lines 10-15)**

resuming when none of the bridge point data units failing the permit list have been received for a period. **(col.12, lines 20-34 and col.16, lines 29-32)**

**As per claim 7:** See col.9, lines 36-37 and col.12, lines 20-34; discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 6, wherein the period is in the order of tens of seconds.

**As per claim 8:** See col.31, lines 24-45 and 51-65 and col.36, lines 49-53 and col.37, lines 2-16; discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 6, wherein the authentication rules are applicable when the spanning tree protocol is enabled on the switch.

**As per claim 9: See col.3, lines 34-43 and col.20, lines 24-37;** discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein the bridge address of the bridge potentially being a root bridge is specified in the permit list, for triggering a root identifier checking.

**As per claim 10: See col.13, lines 48-65 and col.14, lines 63-67;** discussing the authentication mechanism as recited in claim 1, wherein all the switches in a bridge domain that is trusted are specified in the permit list.

### ***Conclusion***

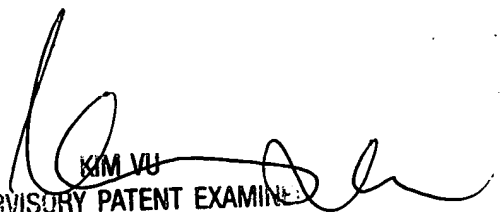
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEYNNA T. HA whose telephone number is (571) 272-3851. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday (7:00 - 5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2135

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LHa

  
KIM VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100